

Serial No. 10/506,480

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REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application. Restriction was required to one of the following four allegedly distinct inventions:

Group I, Claim 1, drawn to a streptavidin-binding protein comprising or consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 1-12, which further requires the election of a single peptide sequence from SEQ ID No. 1-12; or

Group II, Claims 2-4, drawn to a nucleic acid coding for SEQ ID Nos. 1-12, a plasmid containing the DNA, which further requires the election of a single peptide sequence from SEQ ID No. 1-12 for which the nucleic acid encodes; or

Group III, Claim 5, drawn to a method of purification of a defined protein in a protein biosynthesis system, wherein the protein produced/purified is a peptide of SEQ ID Nos: 1-12, which further requires the election of a single peptide sequence from SEQ ID Nos. 1-12 for which the nucleic acid encodes; or

Group IV, Claim 6, drawn to a method for labeling a defined protein wherein a nucleic acid coding for the protein, and connected therewith, for the streptavidin peptide of SEQ ID Nos.: 1-12, are utilized with a streptavidin conjugate, which further requires the election of a single peptide sequence from SEQ ID Nos: 1-12 for which the nucleic acid encodes.

In response, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372, applicants hereby elect the Group 1 claims, i.e. claim 1, without traverse, for prosecution on the merits.

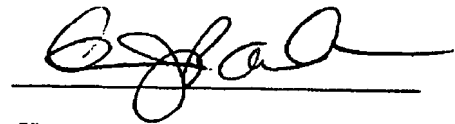
The election of a single peptide sequence was also required.

In response, SEQ ID NO: 8 is elected herein. Applicant has also amended claim 1 to add the limitation that the X at position 3 of SEQ ID No: 8 is selected from the group consisting of glutamic acid (E), aspartic acid (D), or glycine (G). Support for the amendment is provided in the specification in paragraphs [0041]-[0042].

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Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of the application, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicants' attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,



Keum J. Park
Registration No. 42,059

Attorney for Applicant
Mayer & Williams PC
251 North Avenue West, 2nd Floor
Westfield, NJ 07090
908-518-7700 Tel
908-518-7795 Fax